

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

SUB D7 1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for customizing television
2 content operable to run on a computing platform electrically
3 coupled to a receiver which is electrically coupled to a display
4 device, the apparatus operable to receive supplemental data from a
5 supplemental data database maintained by a television service
6 provider, the apparatus comprising:
7 a television tuner/decoder operable to receive television
8 signals from the television service provider and decode the
9 received television signal;
10 a supplemental data extractor operable to receive supplemental
11 data from the television ~~signal~~ service provider;
12 a profile database operable to store a viewer profile; and
13 a filter module electrically coupled to said profile database
14 and to the supplemental data extractor, said filter module operable
15 to access the viewer profile and the supplement data and, in
16 response, to select a preferred display component according to the
17 viewer profile and the supplemental data, the preferred display
18 component operable to target a particular viewer relative to other
19 viewers by supplementing television content; and
20 an overlay coupled to said television tuner/decoder ~~to receive~~
21 ~~the decoded television signal~~ and to said filter module to
22 substantially simultaneously receive the decoded television signal
23 and the preferred display component, said overlay operable to
24 integrate said decoded television signal and said preferred display
25 component for combined display via a display device.

1 2. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising a
2 profile module operable to receive viewer demographic information
3 and, in response, to generate the viewer profile.

1 3. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said profile
2 module is operable to provide a demographic template to the viewer
3 for receiving the viewer demographic information.

1 4. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the viewer
2 profile contains demographic categories corresponding to input
3 options comprising:
4 an age option;
5 a race option;
6 a gender option;
7 a marital status option;
8 an educational level option;
9 a sexual preference option; and
10 an income level option.

C1 1 5. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the filter module
2 comprises a selection algorithm operable to select a preferred
3 display component according to the viewer profile and the
4 supplemental data.

1 6. (Previously Amended) A method performed on a computing
2 platform that is associated with a display device and a receiver
3 for providing functionality associated with an apparatus for
4 customizing television content, the method comprising:
5 storing a viewer profile in a profile database;
6 receiving a television signal from a television signal
7 provider;
8 receiving supplemental data from a display component database;
9 accessing the viewer profile in the profile database and the
10 supplemental data;

11 selecting a preferred display component in accordance with the
12 viewer profile and supplemental data, the preferred display
13 component operable to target a particular viewer relative to other
14 viewers; and

15 integrating the received television signal and the preferred
16 display component for combined display to a viewer.

1 7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein:

2 said step of selecting a preferred display component in
3 accordance with the viewer profile and supplemental data includes
4 transmitting an abbreviated reference associated with a
5 specific display component to the viewer from the television
6 service provider;

7 automatically selecting an abbreviated reference via the
8 computing platform at a viewer location in accordance with the
9 viewer profile;

10 requesting at the viewer location a preferred display
11 component associated with the abbreviated reference from the
12 television service provider; and

13 transmitting the preferred display component from the
14 television service provider to the viewer location.

1 8. (Original) The method of Claim 6, further comprising the steps
2 of:

3 receiving viewer demographic information; and

4 generating the viewer profile according to the viewer
5 demographic information.

1 9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step
2 of providing a demographic template to the viewer to receive the
3 viewer demographic information.

1 10. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the viewer profile
2 contains demographic categories corresponding to input options
3 comprising:
4 an age option;
5 a race option;
6 a gender option;
C1 7 a marital status option;
8 an educational level option;
9 a sexual preference option; and,
10 income level.

11 to 15. (Canceled)

SUB D27 1 16. (Previously Added) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
2 said overlay operate to integrate said decoded television
3 signal and said preferred display component for display via a
4 display device by displaying said decoded television signal in a
5 first display area and said preferred display component in a second
6 display area.

C2 1 17. (Previously Added) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
2 said supplemental data extractor is coupled to said television
3 tuner/decoder to extract said supplemental data from said decoded
4 television signal.

1 18. (Previously Added) The method of claim 6, wherein:
2 said step of integrating the received television signal and
3 the preferred display component for display displays the decoded
4 television signal in a first display area and the preferred display
5 component in a second display area.

1 19. (Previously Added) The method of claim 6, wherein:
2 said step of receiving supplemental data from a display
3 component database extracts the supplemental data from the
C2 4 television signal.

20 and 21. (Canceled)